

Page 1, after the first line of text but before the paragraph which follows it, please insert:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--

Page 2, line 5, please insert:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

Page 2, line 11, please insert:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION--

Page 3, before the first line of text, please insert:

--BRIEF DISCUSSION OF THE DRAWINGS--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel the previous versions of the following claims and replace them with the following rewritten versions. Marked-up copies showing the amendments since the previous versions are annexed as separate pages.

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Claim 1 (twice-amended). Apparatus for emptying a hose bag comprising a cap-like mating part fixed on one end of said hose bag, said cap-like mating part having a pipe-shaped outlet opening (3) and a helical cutting blade arranged therein for opening the hose bag.